



California Trails & Greenways Conference

Purpose, Vision & History

The California Trails & Greenways Conference provides trail professionals, advocates, volunteers and users with a venue for sharing practical, up-to-date trail management skills; as well as a forum for networking and building support for accessible, inter-connected, quality trail systems. This investment of knowledge and commitment, not only by trail professionals, but current and future users of trail systems, will ensure stewardship and leadership for generations to come.

Through this interactive conference forum, we will provide:

- High quality, innovative sessions on the full range of trail topics, including current issues facing the trails community;
- Day-long workshops with hands-on learning;
- A showcase of innovative trail-related products and services available in the marketplace
- Opportunities to network with other trail advocates and build support for local and statewide trail systems; and
- A forum to address the evolving needs of California's trail community.

All activities are designed to increase the knowledge of trail, recreational and wild land management professionals; and improve trail systems and programs throughout California.

Brief History & Information:

The conference was developed by California State Parks in 1984 to address the needs of trail professionals and trail management entities throughout California. The goal was to provide an opportunity for non-motorized trail professionals and users to meet in an educational setting in order to share and learn about the full range of trail management skills and address current issues. In 1995, the Recreational Trails Conference organization (now the nonprofit California Trails Conference Foundation) was formed to carry out the goals of the conference. The volunteer governing board is made up of two

board members and one paid executive manager. The conference is self-funded through its sponsorships, registration fees and in-kind contributions.

Major Support:

California State Parks off-sets much of the conference costs through the donation of staff time and services for planning and implementing the conference. The US Department of Transportation and California Trails and Greenways Foundation provide on-going support.

About the 2009 Conference:

This year's conference will take place Wednesday, April 22nd through Friday, April 24th at Tenaya Lodge near Yosemite National Park's south gate. We anticipate that this will be one of our most successful conferences, drawing nearly 300 trail professionals and enthusiasts. Registration will begin in February!!

Theme:

This year's theme is **Trails for a Sustainable Environment**. The conference will host several workshops and sessions covering many aspects of this theme lead by experts within the California recreational trails community.

Hosted by the
California Trails Conference Foundation
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